

CIVIL WAR SITES ADVISORY COMMISSION (1991-1993)

COMPUTER DATA BASES

Structure for database: C:\DBASE\EVENTS.DBF

Number of data records: 627

Date of last update : 11/16/93

Field	Field Name	Type	Width	Dec	Index
1	REFNUM	Character	6		Y
2	EVENT	Character	25		Y
3	TYPE	Character	8		Y
4	DATE1	Date	8		Y
5	DATE2	Date	8		N
6	STATE	Character	2		Y
7	THEATERCOD	Character	2		Y
8	CPMCODE	Character	3		Y
9	THREATS	Character	4		Y
10	OWNERSHIP	Character	7		Y
11	PARK	Logical	1		N
12	INTEGRITY	Character	4		Y
13	MILITARY	Character	8		Y
14	IPOTENTIAL	Character	22		Y
15	COMMENTS	Memo	10		N
16	DISPUTE	Logical	1		N
17	JIM	Character	2		Y
18	ED	Character	2		Y
19	BILL	Character	2		Y
20	PROTECTED	Character	6		Y
21	PERCENT	Character	3		Y
22	COUNTY	Character	35		Y
23	ACREAGE	Character	6		Y
24	UNPROTECT	Character	6		Y
25	VALUE	Character	15		Y
26	PRIORITY1	Logical	1		N
**	Total	**	198		

REFNUM = The reference number assigned to the battle site/event. The first two letters are the abbreviation of the state in which the battle site/event is located. The number reflects the order in which the battle site/events in the state were assigned a reference number.

EVENT = Name of the battle site/event. Note: The Commission's first list of events was based on the Official Records listing of Principal Military Events. The entire data base closely approximates the Commission's first list of events. The database minus the "marked" files [marked by dBase IV procedures] represent the Commission's final inventory of events, or battle sites.

TYPE = The kind of conflict (i.e., Action, Adv&Sieg [Advance & Siege], Assault, Attack, Battle, Bomb, Bomb,Cap [Bombardment & Capture], Combat, Demonstration, Engagement, Exped [Expedition], Massacre, Naval, Navalops [Naval Operations], Occup [Occupation], Ops [Operation], Raid, Recap [Recapture], Seig,Cap [Seige & Capture], Skirm [Skirmish], Skirmish.) as designated in the official Records.

DATE1 = Beginning day of the event. mo/dy/year. e.g., 04/02/61.

DATE2 = End day of the event. mo/dy/year. e.g., 04/05/61

STATE = Two-letter abbreviation of the state in which the battle site/event is located. e.g., Alabama = AL

THEATERCOD= The number code of the theater.
1 Main Eastern Theater of operation.
2 Lower Seaboard Theater of Operation.
3 Main Western Theater of Operations & the Gulf Approach (1861-1863).
4 Trans-Mississippi Theater of Operations
5 Pacific Coast Theater

Note: This code links the Events database (Event.dbf) with the Theater database (Theater.dbf).

Robert N. Scott, the overall editor of The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies (Washington, DC: The Government Printing Office, 1880-1901), arranged Series I, of that publication, according to the campaigns and several theaters of operations The Official Records editors recognized five theaters of operations, Main Eastern, Lower Seaboard, Main Western, Trans-Mississippi, and Pacific Coast. Dr. Dallas D. Irvine, the creator and major compiler-editor of Military Operations of the Civil War: A Guide-Index to the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, 1861-1865 (Washington, DC; The Government Printing Office, 1968-80) modified this arrangement by removing the Gulf Approach operations from the Main Western Theater and combining them with the Lower Seaboard Theater. The Commission study used Irvine's classification system.

CPMCODE = Code number of the campaign with which the event is associated.

Note: This code links the Events database (Events.dbf) with the Campaign database (Campaign.dbf).

Note: Some campaigns were deleted or renamed during the course of the study. In the database these are marked for deletion. Files marked for deletion [using dBase IV procedures] are not in the Commission's official final inventory.

THREATS = The degree of anticipated threats to the battle sites' integrity over the next 10 years. The Commission assigned the degree of threat based on short- and long-term threats identified by the field investigator on the battle site survey form.

High = High threats means that there is rapidly changing land use on or close to the battle site and large core parcels are threatened. Substantial loss of the battle site landscape is expected within ten years.

Mod = Moderate threats indicates that incremental changes in land use on or close to the battle site are occurring and smaller core parcels are threatened. Some loss of the battle site landscape is expected within ten years.

Low = Low threats means that land use on and close to the battle site are changing slowly and core parcels do not appear to be threatened. Minimal loss of portions of the battle site landscape is expected within ten years.

N/A = Threat level is Not Applicable because the battle site landscape is deemed lost.

Unk = Unknown

OWNERSHIP = The kind(s) of known ownership of the battle site. The Commission relied on the ownership information provided on the survey forms and additional data collected by staff members. The field surveyors and the Commission staff did not consult official ownership records, such as County tax records or maps. Many of the battle sites probably have more kinds of ownership than indicated in the Commission's database.

F = Federal Government

S = State Government

L = Local Government

P = Private

Unk = Unknown

PARK = Park means any size or kind (historical, recreations, natural, etc.) of federal, state, local, or private park. A park presence does not mean that the battle is interpreted or even that the battle site is protected.

Y = Yes, a park is present.

N = No, a park is not present.

INTEGRITY = Integrity is the measure of the battle site's condition.

Good = A battle site with good integrity is essentially unchanged from the historic period with respect to terrain, land use, road network, and mass and scale of buildings.

Fair = A battle site with fair integrity is largely intact with some changes in primary geographical and topographical configuration and mass and scale of the buildings.

Poor = A battle site with poor integrity is significantly altered in terms of its primary geographical and topographical configuration and mass and scale of the buildings. Road construction and changes in land use are usually evident at sites with poor integrity. Sites with poor integrity sometimes retain core parcels (50-200 acres) intact within the generally fragmented landscape.

Lost = A lost site has "changed beyond recognition," meaning that a local resident of the time returning to the site today presumably would not recognize his surroundings. Lost battlefields may retain small (1-50 acres) parcels suitable for commemoration, however, the ability to interpret the battle on the landscape has been lost.

Unk = Unknown

MILITARY = The Military Importance or Military Class; Military Importance = Military Class. The Commission ranked each battle (and its associated battle site) within the framework of its campaign and the war.

Class A = Decisive: A general engagement involving field armies in which a commander achieved a vital strategic objective. Such a result might include an indisputable victory on the field or be limited to the success or termination of a campaign offensive. Decisive battles had a direct, observable impact on the direction, duration, conduct, or outcome of the war.

Class B = Major: An engagement of magnitude involving field armies or divisions of the armies in which a commander achieved an important strategic objective within the context of an ongoing campaign offensive. Major battles had a direct, observable impact on the direction, duration, conduct, or outcome of the campaign.

Class C = Formative: An engagement involving divisions or detachments of the field armies in which a commander accomplished a limited campaign objective of reconnaissance, disruption, defense, or occupation. Formative battles had an observable influence on the direction, duration, or conduct of the campaign.

Class D = Limited: An engagement, typically involving detachments of the field armies, in which a commander achieved a limited tactical objective of reconnaissance, defense, or occupation. Limited battles maintained contact between the combatants without observable influence on the direction of the campaign.

IPOTENTIAL = Interpretive Potential. Each letter (A-R) represents an important Civil War interpretive theme. Many battle sites have more than one interpretive themes. For example, the Honey Springs battle site in Oklahoma can be used to interpret the significant participation of cavalry in battle (H); the participation of numerous minorities in battle (J); and the economic consequences that a battle can have on a region (K). Archaeological study of Honey Springs battlefield will yield important information on the battle and warfare in general (L). In addition, the battle of Honey Springs has unusual importance in the public mind and imagination (G).

A = Effect Upon International Diplomacy
B = Effect Upon National Politics or Strategy
C = Effect Upon Regional or State Political Situation
D = Loss of Significant Commander (Wounding, Death, Relieved of Command)
E = Unusually High Casualties
F = Illustrates Important Lessons in Military Tactics and Strategy
G = Unusual Importance in the Public Mind and Imagination
H = Significant Participation of Cavalry, Artillery, or Other Single Combat Arm
I = Military Firsts

J = Participation of Significant Numbers of Minority Troops
 K = Significant Economic Consequences
 L = High Archaeological Potential
 M = Unusually Significant Logistics or Supply Feat
 N = Exceptional Individual Initiative in Bravery or Command
 O = Exceptional Group Behavior
 P = Illustrates Joint Operations (Army-Navy)
 Q = Illustrates Cooperation of Separate Military Departments or Armies
 R = Naval Operations
 [blank] = No Interpretive Potential Criteria Identified

COMMENTS = Comments about the site. This field was never used.

DISPUTES = A yes or no field intended to indicate if there was a dispute about the importance of the battle site. The field was never used.

JIM = Dr. James M. McPherson. The letter in this field is Dr. McPherson's initial opinion regarding the military importance of the event. (Refer to MILITARY above.) An entry was made in this field only when Dr. McPherson disagreed with the first military importance value assigned to the event. Differences of opinion about the military importance of specific battle events were resolved at an October 23, 1992 meeting.

ED = Mr. Edwin C. Bearss. The letter in this field is Mr. Bearss' initial opinion regarding the military importance of the event. (Refer to MILITARY above.) An entry was made in this field only when Mr. Bearss disagreed with the first military importance value assigned to the event. Differences of opinion about the military importance of specific battle events were resolved at an October 23, 1992 meeting.

BILL = Dr. William J. Cooper, Jr. The letter in this field is Dr. Cooper's initial opinion regarding the military importance of the event. (Refer to MILITARY above.) An entry was made in this field only when Dr. Cooper disagreed with the first military importance value assigned to the event. Differences of opinion about the military importance of specific battle events were resolved at an October 23, 1992 meeting.

PROTECTED = The number of acres of the battle site that are protected; for example, by easement or park status. This field is ill-defined and incomplete. The data may be inaccurate. The Commission did not use the data in this field.

PERCENT = Percentage of the land area of the battlefield that is protected. This field is ill-defined and incomplete. The data may be inaccurate. The Commission did not use the data in this field.

COUNTY = The county, or counties, in which the battle site is located. In Virginia, incorporated cities are not part of their surrounding jurisdiction. **Note: The Commission used its Counties database (counties.dbf) for county information rather than this entry in the events database.**

ACREAGE = The number of acres of the battle site. This field is incomplete and the data may be inaccurate. The Commission did not use the data in this field.

UNPROTECT = The number of acres that are not protected. This field is incomplete and the data may be inaccurate. The Commission did not use the data in this field.

VALUE = The assessed land value of the battle site. This field is incomplete and the data may be inaccurate. The Commission did not use the data in this field.

PRIORITY1 = "Y" = The battle site/event is one of the Commission's Priority One battlefields.

[blank] = The battle site/event is not one of the Commission's Priority One battlefields.

This field was never completed.

Structure for database: C:\DBASE\CAMPAIGN.DBF

Number of data records: 159

Date of last update : 11/15/93

Field	Field Name	Type	Width	Dec	Index
1	CPMCODE	Character	3		Y
2	CAMPAIGN	Character	50		Y
3	DATEA	Date	8		Y
4	RANK	Character	4		Y
** Total **			66		

CPMCODE = Campaign Code

Campaigns are subsets of theaters. The majority of the campaigns in the Commission study are as they appear in the Official Records and Guide-Index. A few changes, however, were made. Some campaigns that Irvine had placed in the Lower Seaboard and Gulf Approach were transferred to the Western Theater. In these campaigns, the troops involved were wholly or mostly from Main Western Theater commands and were operating basically out of that theater. In addition, the Official Records and Guide-Index did not specifically include all of the battles identified in the Commission study in a campaign; listing these battles instead as singular events. In order to provide a framework in which to evaluate these battles, the Commission added some campaigns, using analysis from secondary sources and basing them on related events.

Note: Some campaigns were deleted or renamed during the course of the study. In the database these are marked for deletion. Files marked for deletion [using dBase IV procedures] are not in the Commission's official final inventory.

CAMPAIGN = Name of the Code

DATEA = Date of the Campaign

RANK = The Rank of the Campaign was based on the military importance of the battle events in the campaign; not on the relative importance of the campaign to other campaigns. Rank I meant the campaign had a Class A battlefield. Rank II meant that the highest ranking battlefield in the campaign was a Class B battlefield. Rank III campaigns had Class C and D battlefields. This ranking was a shorthand used by the Commission staff early in the study. **It was not used by the Commission in its deliberations.**

Structure for database: C:\DBASE\THEATERS.DBF

Number of data records: 5

Date of last update : 10/06/92

Field	Field Name	Type	Width	Dec	Index
1	THEATERCOD	Character	2		Y
2	THEATER	Character	50		Y
** Total **			53		

THEATERCOD = The code of the theater.

- 1 Main Eastern Theater of operation.
- 2 Lower Seaboard Theater of Operation.
- 3 Main Western Theater of Operations & and the Gulf Approach (1861-1863).
- 4 Trans-Mississippi Theater of Operations
- 5 Pacific Coast Theater

Note: This code links the Theater database (Theater.dbf) with the Events database (Events.dbf).

THEATER = The name of the Theater.

Structure for database: C:\DBASE\COUNTIES.DBF

Number of data records: 384

Date of last update : 05/23/94

Field	Field Name	Type	Width	Dec	Index
1	REFNUM	Character	6		Y
2	EVENT	Character	25		Y
3	COUNTY	Character	35		Y
4	COUNTY2	Character	35		Y
5	COUNTY3	Character	35		Y
6	COUNTY4	Character	35		Y
7	CITY	Character	35		Y
** Total **			207		

REFNUM = The reference number assigned to the battle site/event. The first two letters are the abbreviation of the state in which the battle site/event is located. The number reflects the order in which the battle site/events in the state were assigned a reference number.

EVENT = Name of the battle site/event.

COUNTY = The primary county in which a battle site/event is located.

COUNTY2 = The second county in which a battle site/event also is located.

COUNTY3 = The third county in which a battle site/event also is located.

COUNTY4 = The fourth county in which a battle site/event also is located.

CITY = The city in which the battle site/event is located.